

CRS No. A-00002

Address: 249 Bowers Beach Road

Name: Dwelling, 249 Bowers Beach Road

Tax Parcel: 8-00-12216-01-0901-00001

Date of Construction/Major Alteration: ca. 1955

Time Period: 1940-1960±, Suburbanization and Early Ex-urbanization

Geographic Zone: Upper Peninsula

Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts (Residential Architecture) and Settlement Patterns and Demographic Changes (Community Development)

Description

This property is located on the northwest side of Bowers Beach Road in South Murderkill Hundred, Kent County, Delaware. The property includes a *circa*-1955 Minimal Ranch dwelling; a *circa*-1960 tool shed, and the following post-1961 buildings: a prefabricated metal-clad shed (Shed 1); a wood-clad shed (Shed 2); a mobile home; a recreational vehicle; and two carports. Characteristic of the Minimal Ranch type, the dwelling has a Chicago-style picture window in the façade (south elevation), shallow eaves, and a central gabled porch entry. The dwelling sits back from Bowers Beach Road and faces slightly to the southeast, parallel to the roadway. Originally, the dwelling was a one-story, three-bay, stucco-clad dwelling, capped by a side-gable roof, with a central gabled entrance porch and a one-bay hyphen extending from the east elevation. This original form is identical to the original forms of three other dwellings located to the south and west along Bowers Beach Road [192 Bowers Beach Road (A-00008); 249 Bowers Beach Road (A-00002); and 264 Bowers Beach Road (A-00010)]. In 2008, the dwelling is laid out in a window-door-window-window-door-window pattern. The gabled porch entry on the façade (south) elevation is sheathed in asphalt shingles and is supported by wood posts that rest on a poured concrete stoop. A mix of one-over-one light, double-hung sash vinyl windows, the vinyl-clad Chicago-style picture window, and wood-framed awning windows light the façade (south), west, and north elevations. A shed-roof addition that extends from the east elevation of the hyphen has been altered and is now comprised of a pedestrian entry and a two-light sliding sash window. Pedestrian entries are also located in the north elevation.

The *circa*-1960 tool shed is located north of the dwelling along the western property boundary. Two batten wood doors in the east elevation provide access to the interior, which is also lit by a 6-light wood window. The rear yard is enclosed and, in addition to the tool shed, includes the two modern sheds and mobile home. An asphalt-covered U-shaped driveway provides access to a large asphalt parking area immediately east of the dwelling that is sheltered by a modern carport. The recreational vehicle is parked to the east of the driveway and carport. A second carport is located to the north of the driveway. The property is minimally landscaped and is dotted with a few mature trees.

Historical Narrative

The property is located on land owned by the family of the present-day owner, Jean Roberts, since the late 1940s. Aerial photographs accessed via the Delaware DataMIL website indicate the dwelling was constructed between 1954 and 1961.

National Register Evaluation

The property at 249 Bowers Beach Road was evaluated as a Minimal Ranch dwelling as identified in the *Historic Context for the DuPont Highway, U.S. Route 113, Kent and Sussex Counties, Delaware* (John Milner Associates, Inc. 2005). Minimal Ranch dwellings are common

mid-twentieth-century building types in the U.S. 113 APE. As noted in the context, the Minimal Ranch dwelling would not be considered individually eligible for listing in the National Register unless it was an elaborate, architect-designed dwelling that retained all exterior details, including its fenestration and sash patterns, and lacked additions. The property does not retain its original form, exterior details, or materials necessary to deem it individually eligible for listing in the National Register. Although located along the north side of Bowers Beach Road amidst other residential strip development, the property has no potential to yield information on residential development practices; therefore, the property is not eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A. Based on the background research conducted for this project, the property does not appear to be associated with an individual of historic importance; therefore, the property is not eligible under Criterion B. With its additions and replacement windows, the dwelling is an altered example of a common mid-twentieth-century form and is not a notable example of the architecture of its time; therefore, the dwelling is not eligible for National Register listing under Criterion C. The property does not appear to possess the potential to yield information on building practices or methods of construction; therefore, the property does not appear to be eligible for listing under Criterion D. Due to lack of significance, the property at 249 Bowers Beach Road is not eligible for listing in the National Register.

The property is one of approximately 16 properties located amidst former farmland that was subdivided for residential construction during the late 1940s to mid 1950s, and again in the 1970s. The majority of the residences along Bowers Beach Road, east of U.S. 113, were constructed ca. 1950 to present-day, with earlier examples that were moved to the small rectangular lots from other locations. These dates reflect a wide range of construction patterns and thus, the development is not an early example of the common twentieth-century trend of subdividing lands located closed to major highways. Therefore, the strip development is not eligible under Criterion A. The strip development does not appear to be associated with persons of critical importance to the historic development of the area; therefore, the property is not eligible for listing under Criterion B. The strip development contains dwellings that were constructed during a variety of time periods and include a wide range of forms. The development lacks a cohesive identity, and thus, the grouping could not be considered eligible under Criterion C as a distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The development does not appear to possess the potential to yield information on twentieth-century land development practices; therefore, the development does not appear to be eligible for listing under Criterion D.

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A-00002. Photograph 1: Overview of 249 Bowers Beach Road, looking northwest. This dwelling was constructed by the Roberts family ca. 1955.



A-00002. Photograph 2: Dwelling, west and south elevations, looking north. This side-gable dwelling is clad in stucco and asbestos shingles and is primarily lit by one-over-one light, double-hung sash, vinyl replacement windows.



A-00002. Photograph 3: Dwelling, east and north elevations, looking southwest towards the addition. The carport in the left half of the photograph is modern.



A-00002. Photograph 4: Overview of rear yard, looking northwest. The tool shed located on the left side of the photograph is the lone outbuilding on the property constructed before 1961.



DELAWARE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
15 THE GREEN, DOVER, DE 19901

CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION FORM

CRS # A-00002
SPO Map 12-13-18
Hundred South Murderkill
Quad Frederica
Other 8-00-12216-01-0901-000

1. HISTORIC NAME/FUNCTION: Dwelling, 249 Bowers Beach Road
2. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 249 Bowers Beach Road
3. TOWN/NEAREST TOWN: Little Heaven vicinity? ☒
4. MAIN TYPE OF RESOURCE: building ☒ structure ☐ site ☐ object ☐
 landscape ☐ district ☐
5. MAIN FUNCTION OF PROPERTY: Residential
6. PROJECT TITLE/ REASON FOR SURVEY (if applicable):
SR1, Little Heaven Grade Separated Intersection Improvements

7. ADDITIONAL FORMS USED:

#:	Form:	List property types:
1	CRS 2 Main Building Form	Dwelling
1	CRS 3 Secondary Building Form	Tool shed
	CRS 4 Archaeological Site Form	
	CRS 5 Structure (Building-Like) Form	
	CRS 6 Structure (Land Feature) Form	
	CRS 7 Object Form	
	CRS 8 Landscape Elements Form	
1	CRS 9 Map Form	N/A
	CRS 14 Potential District Form	

8. SURVEYOR INFORMATION:

Surveyor name: Catherine M. Dluzak/Architectural Historian

Principal Investigator name: Barbara Frederick/Sr. Architectural Historian

Principal Investigator signature: [Signature]

Organization: A.D. Marble & Company Date: 09/24/2008

9. OTHER NOTES OR OBSERVATIONS:

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Property owner indicated that the property has been under her family's ownership since the 1940s. A dwelling to the west (239 Bowers Beach Road A-00003, Tax parcel 8-00-12216-01-0900-000) is also under her ownership and is inhabited by her son. The property to the east is also under her ownership (299 Bowers Beach Road, A-00001, Tax parcels 8-00-12216-01-1000-000 and 8-00-12216-01-1001-000).

According to the property owner, the dwelling was constructed ca. 1955. The property includes a *circa*-1955 Minimal Ranch dwelling, a *circa*-1955 tool shed, two post-1961 sheds, a post-1961 mobile home, two post-1961 carport shelters, and a recreational vehicle.

10. STATE HISTORIC CONTEXT FRAMEWORK (check all appropriate boxes; refer to state management plan(s)):

a) Time period(s)

- ☐ Pre-European Contact
- ☐ Paleo-Indian
- ☐ Archaic
- ☐ Woodland I
- ☐ Woodland II

- ☐ 1600-1750✓ Contact Period (Native American)
- ☐ 1630-1730✓ Exploration and Frontier Settlement
- ☐ 1730-1770✓ Intensified and Durable Occupation
- ☐ 1770-1830✓ Early Industrialization
- ☐ 1830-1880✓ Industrialization and Early Urbanization
- ☒ 1880-1940✓ Urbanization and Early Suburbanization
- ☐ 1940-1960✓ Suburbanization and Early Ex-urbanization

b) Geographical zone

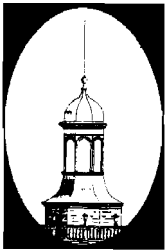
- ☐ Piedmont
- ☒ Upper Peninsula
- ☐ Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp
- ☐ Coastal
- ☐ Urban (City of Wilmington)

c) Historic period theme(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation and Communication |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Settlement Patterns and Demographic Changes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trapping/Hunting | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture, Engineering and Decorative Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mining/Quarrying | <input type="checkbox"/> Government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing/Oystering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retailing/Wholesaling | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Organizations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupational Organizations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Major Families, Individuals and Events |

USE BLACK INK ONLY

CRS-1



DELAWARE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
15 THE GREEN, DOVER, DE 19901

CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
MAIN BUILDING FORM

CRS # A-00002

1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 249 Bowers Beach Road
2. FUNCTION(S): historic Dwelling current Dwelling
3. YEAR BUILT: 1955 CIRCA?: ☒ ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown
4. STYLE OR FLOOR PLAN: Minimal Ranch
5. INTEGRITY: original site ☒ moved ☒
- | if moved, from where | other location's CRS # | year |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| N/A | N/A | N/A |
| N/A | N/A | N/A |
| list major alterations and additions with years (if known) | | year |
| a. Shed roof addition | | ca. 1980 |
| b. Replacement windows | | ca. 2000 |
6. CURRENT CONDITION: excellent ☐ good ☒ fair ☐ poor ☐
7. DESCRIPTION: (Describe the resource as completely as possible. Use N/A for not applicable; leave no blanks.)
- a. Overall shape: Rectilinear Stories: One
Additions: A two-bay-wide by two-bay-deep shed-roof addition extends from the east elevation of hyphen. The addition rests on a concrete block foundation and is clad in wood siding. Sliding-sash vinyl windows light the interior. A modern steel door is sheltered by a vinyl storm door. An asphalt-shingle-clad shed roof shelters the south elevation.
- b. Structural system (if known): Frame
- c. Foundation: materials: Obscured by stucco cladding; concrete block on shed-roof addition
basement: full ☐ partial ☐ not visible ☒ no basement ☐
- d. Exterior walls (original if visible & any subsequent coverings): Stucco
- e. Roof: shape: Side gable
materials: Asphalt shingles
cornice: Shallow, boxed, wood
dormers: N/A
chimney: location(s): Interior, north slope near ridge, off-center, concrete block; northeast corner of core exterior, concrete block
8. DESCRIPTION OF ELEVATIONS:
- a. Facade: Direction: South
- 1) Bays Six (6)
- 2) Windows 4
- Fenestration Irregular
- type (1) Chicago-style vinyl; (1) 1/1 double-hung sash vinyl; (2) sliding-sash vinyl
- trim Vinyl
- shutters Inoperable, flush, wood

Facade (cont'd)

- 3) **Door(s)** 2 (1 core, 1 addition)
 location 2nd and 5th bays
 type Steel replacement; vinyl storm doors
 trim Wood and vinyl
- 4) **Porch(es)** Entry porch: Two wood posts resting on a concrete deck supports a gable front roof clad in asphalt shingles. Accessed by two concrete steps.

b. Side: Direction: East

- 1) **Bays** Three (2)
- 2) **Windows** 3; 1 core, 2 addition
 Fenestration Irregular
 type (1) 1/1 double-hung sash vinyl; (2) sliding sash vinyl
 trim Wood
 shutters Inoperable, flush, wood on core
- 3) **Door(s)** 0
 location N/A
 type N/A
 trim N/A
- 4) **Porch(es)** N/A

c. Side: Direction: West

- 1) **Bays** Two (2)
- 2) **Windows** 2
 Fenestration Irregular
 type (1) wood awning-sash; (1) 1/1 double-hung sash vinyl
 trim Wood
 shutters N/A
- 3) **Door(s)** 0
 location N/A
 type N/A
 trim N/A
- 4) **Porch(es)** N/A; Wood shed-roof hood, clad in corrugated metal; shelters southernmost window bay in elevation.

d. Rear: Direction: North

- 1) **Bays** Seven (7)
- 2) **Windows** 5
 Fenestration Irregular
 type (1) 8-light wood casement; (1) sliding-sash vinyl; (3) 2-light awning wood
 trim Wood; (1) six-light, fixed sash
 shutters Inoperable, aluminum types flank awning-sash windows
- 3) **Door(s)** One (1)
 location 3rd bay
 type Vinyl and glass replacement storm door; interior door not visible
 trim Wood
- 4) **Porch(es)** Slate and brick deck

9. **INTERIOR:** Not accessible.

10. **LANDSCAPING:** Minimal landscaping around foundation of dwelling. Mature tree in front yard. Elongated, U-shaped asphalt drive east of the dwelling provides access to carports. A gravel parking area is to the east. A wood picket fence encloses the rear yard.

11. **OTHER COMMENTS:** N/A

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CRS-2



DELAWARE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
15 THE GREEN, DOVER, DE 19901

CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
SECONDARY BUILDING FORM

CRS # A-00002

1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 249 Bowers Beach Road
2. FUNCTION(S): historic Tool shed current Tool shed
3. YEAR BUILT: 1955 CIRCA?: ☒ ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown
4. STYLE/FLOOR PLAN: Open
5. INTEGRITY: original site ☒ moved ☐
- | <u>if moved, from where</u> | <u>original location's CRS #</u> | <u>year</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| <u>N/A</u> | <u>N/A</u> | <u>N/A</u> |
| <u>N/A</u> | <u>N/A</u> | <u>N/A</u> |
| <u>list major alterations and additions with years (if known)</u> | | <u>year</u> |
| <u>a. N/A</u> | | <u>N/A</u> |
| <u>b. N/A</u> | | <u>N/A</u> |
6. CURRENT CONDITION: excellent ☐ good ☒ fair ☐ poor ☐
7. DESCRIPTION:
- a. Structural system Frame
- b. Number of stories 1
- c. Wall coverings Vertical wood boards
- d. Foundation Concrete blocks
- e. Roof
structural system Frame
coverings Corrugated metal
openings N/A
8. DESCRIPTION OF ELEVATIONS:
- a. Facade: direction: East
- 1) bays: Two (2)
- 2) windows: 0
- 3) door(s): (2) batten wood
- 4) other: N/A

- b. Side: direction: South
- 1) bays: 1
 - 2) windows: (1) 6-light fixed wood
 - 3) door(s): 0
 - 4) other: N/A

- c. Side: direction: North
- 1) bays: Not visible
 - 2) windows: Not visible
 - 3) door(s): Not visible
 - 4) other: Not visible

- d. Rear: direction: West
- 1) bays: 0 – blank wall
 - 2) windows: 0
 - 3) door(s): 0
 - 4) other: N/A

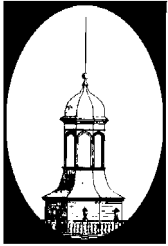
9. INTERIOR (if accessible):

a) Floor plan Not accessible

b) Partition/walls Not accessible

c) Finishes Not accessible

d) Furnishings/machinery Not accessible



CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
MAP FORM

CRS # A-00002

1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 249 Bowers Beach Road

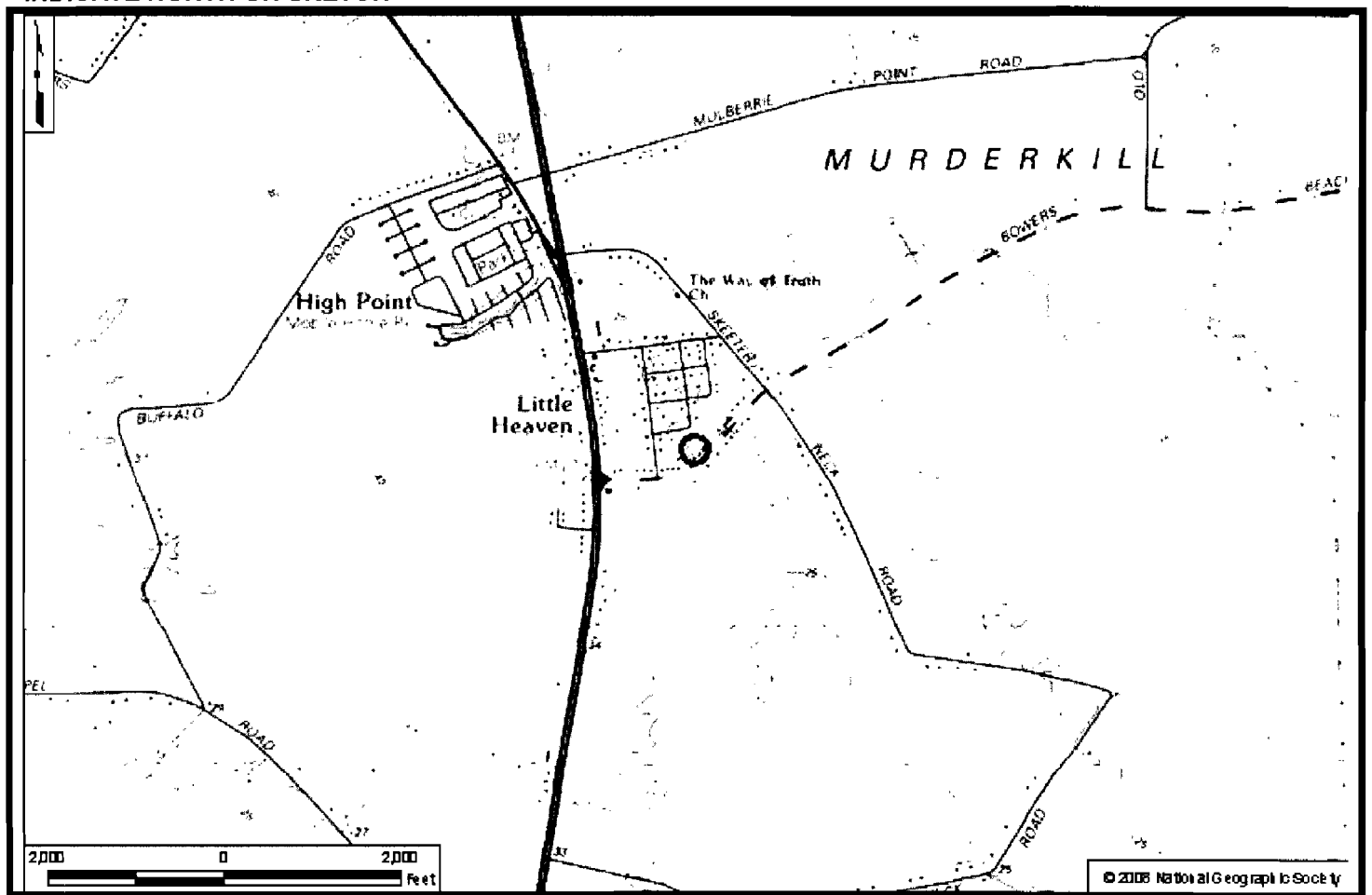
2. NOT FOR PUBLICATION ☐ reason: _____

3. LOCATION MAP:

Indicate position of resource in relation to geographical landmarks such as streams and crossroads.

(attach section of USGS quad map with location marked or draw location map)

INDICATE NORTH ON SKETCH



INDICATE NORTH ON PLAN

